(b) Under the existing procedure, verification of membership of unions is conducted under the Code of Discipline ratified by the Indian Labour Conference in 1958 Subject to mutual consent between employers and the trade unions concerned, the verification can also be conducted through secret ballot. The judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court laying down guidelines and procedures for conducting secret ballot is confined to Food Corporation of India, based on mutual consent between the unions and FCI management and does not have general application to all other Government Corporations and undertakings.

(c) The Chief Labour Commisioner (Central) has already initiated action to comply with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(d) Does not arise .

Beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh

952. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many beedi workers are there in Andhra Pradesh according to Labour Ministry statistics;

(b) when was the census done; and

(c) by what system does Labour Ministry update its information on the beedi sector in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in 1991, the number of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh is around 6.20 lakhs.

(c) Updating of statistics is generally based on figures received from the Labour Departments of respective State Governments from time to time. Other important sources are statistics compiled by the Labour Bureau, Shimla, decennial census and sample surveys conducted by the Central Statistics Organisation from time to time.

Training and redeployment of Workers

953. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to interact closely with the various public sector Undertakings (PSUs) on a definitive package of training and redeployment of surplus workers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information provided by Ministry of Industrial Development, Employee Assistance Centres (EACs) have been established at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Indore and Kanpur to provide a definitive package of training including for redeployment of surplus workers. In addition to these EACs, nine other nodal agencies have come forward to take up similar work. These EACs set up under NRF (National Renewal Fund) survey the requirements of workers, counsel them and retrain them. In the Budget for the current year, an amount of Rs. 50 crores has been provided for the purpose.

In addition, Director General of Employment & Training in the Ministry of Labour has also taken up training and retraining work through their infrastructure and of Public Sector Undertakings

Two Days Indian Labour Conference

954. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) in its latest two-day